



Commencement

9:30 a.m. • May 12th • Spring 2007

Forty-eighth Commencement

9:30 a.m. • Saturday • May 12, 2007

Leggett & Platt Athletic Center

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Forty-eighth Commencement

9:30 a.m. • Saturday • May 12, 2007

School of Business Administration
School of Technology • Associate Degrees

Processional: "Pomp and Circumstance" Elgar
Missouri Southern Commencement Ensemble

Invocation Mr. Brian Nichols
Assistant Professor, School of Business Administration, Missouri Southern State University

Welcome and Introductions Dr. Julio S. León
President, Missouri Southern State University

Remarks Dr. Julio S. León

Conferring of Honorary Degree Dr. Julio S. León

Hooding Ceremony

Presentation of Class Dr. Richard J. McCallum
Vice President for Academic Affairs, Missouri Southern State University

Conferring of Degrees Dr. Julio S. León

Presentation of Diplomas

Congratulatory Remarks Dr. William Huffman
President, Faculty Senate, Missouri Southern State University

Announcement of Academic Honors Dr. Richard J. McCallum

MSSU Alma Mater (page 17) Stephanie Gilmore
Orchestration Arranged by Nicholas Gilmore, Senior Music Education Major
Music Performance-Vocal, Class of 2007

Shannon Martinous
Music Performance-Vocal, Class of 2007

Benediction Mr. Brian Nichols

Recessional "Sine Nomine" R. V. Williams & E. Rosenberg
Missouri Southern Commencement Ensemble

Sign Language Interpreter Sharlene Williams

Please remain standing until recessional is completed. • Please turn off all beepers/cell phones.



Missouri Southern State University
Commencement Speaker
President

Julio S. León



ULIO S. LEÓN marks his 25th year as president of Missouri Southern State University in 2007. His tenure represents one of the longest University presidencies in the nation. This year also marks the 38th year of Dr. León's service to Missouri Southern.

Dr. León became interim President in July 1982 and on December 16, 1982, he was named the third president in the University's history as a four-year institution.

His steady leadership and expansive vision have propelled the University and its pursuit of excellence into the 21st Century.

Growth of the University has occurred on a multitude of fronts during his two and a half decades of leadership, including student enrollment, curriculum development, faculty enrichment, institutional stature, and facility enhancements. Excellence in the classroom has been and is his first priority.

In 1969, when Dr. León arrived on Missouri Southern's campus as an assistant professor of business administration, the University awarded 350 degrees; today nearly 800 students earn diplomas each year. In 1973 he became an associate professor and in 1976 a full professor and Dean of the School of Business Administration.

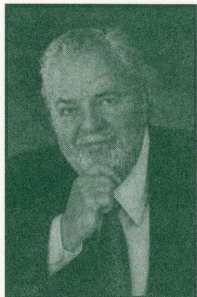
In addition to enrollment growth, he also has presided over dramatic physical expansion of the campus. The square footage of building space added since 1982 is equal to almost 10 football fields. In 1969 eight major facilities were in use; today there are more than 30.

Some of his most significant accomplishments include:

- Obtaining University status in 2003, which also allowed MSSU to offer cooperative master's degree programs;
- Creating a model Honors Program in 1984;
- Collaborating to improve preparation of college-bound students;
- Leading a national effort to increase understanding of economics by requiring all students to take a course on the American economic system;
- Instituting mandatory assessment of learning for all graduates, one of the first institutions in the nation to do so;
- Shaping a nationally recognized and award-winning International Mission adopted in 1990 and supported by the Missouri legislature;
- Creating in 1999 the Division of Lifelong Learning to develop distance learning opportunities for place-bound students and global competitiveness. Today, more than 1,700 students (nontraditional students, single parents, working adults, regular college students, and international students) benefit from online courses and degrees;
- Presiding over a 30 percent increase in enrollment;
- Directing more than \$62 million in construction and improvements providing state-of-the-art facilities for students and faculty and creating hundreds of jobs in the public and private sectors;

In 1993, Dr. and Mrs. León were honored with the Joplin Area Chamber of Commerce Outstanding Citizens award. He has served in leadership roles on numerous national boards, including the Boards of Directors of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU), the Inter-American Organization for Higher Education (IOHE), and the American Council on Education (ACE). In 2001, Dr. León was chairman of the board of AASCU.

His wife, Mrs. Vivian León, is director of the world-renowned Missouri Southern International Piano Competition.



Honorary Degree Recipient Doctor of Humane Letters

Robert W. Plaster

ROBERT W. PLASTER is a former student of Joplin Junior College who went on to become one of Missouri's most successful entrepreneurs and a generous philanthropist. As a young man, Mr. Plaster was focused on achieving his goals and dreams. Today he is focused on achieving his goals and even bigger dreams, but his purpose also is devoted to helping others reach their full potential.

Mr. Plaster was the founder and longtime CEO of Empire Gas and he is Chairman of Evergreen Investments LLC, a multi-million dollar development corporation. The Plaster family has been so successful in business, it has been named to the top 25 wealthiest family list for the Midwest.

Mr. Plaster is a significant benefactor to higher education in Missouri. Missouri Southern State University, its students, faculty, and alumni are fortunate to have been the recipient of his goodwill and generosity. Because of his generosity, Missouri Southern State University is home to the Robert W. Plaster Free Enterprise Center and the Robert W. Plaster School of Business Administration. He also has supported Southwest Baptist University, School of the Ozarks, Crowder College and Missouri State University.

The former accounting student at Joplin Junior College in the 1950s became one of the most successful businessmen in the region. Although he never earned a college degree, he has since been influential in helping thousands of students in Southwest Missouri achieve that goal.

Mr. Plaster was a major contributor to the success of Students In Free Enterprise (SIFE). SIFE establishes student teams on university campuses, including Missouri Southern. Those teams, led by faculty advisors, are challenged to develop community outreach projects that reach SIFE's five educational topics: Market Economics, Success Skills, Entrepreneurship, Financial Literacy, and Business Ethics.

The fledgling organization had only six colleges when Mr. Plaster was introduced to the group. With his direction and support, SIFE is today an international organization with more than 2,000 university teams in 46 countries.

Candidates for Honors & Degrees

Baccalaureate Degrees

Summa Cum Laude

Grade point average 3.90 or above

Beckett, Jr., Larry Russell ‡
Bellairs, Amy Lyn
Bergen, Stephenie Rhema ‡
Buchholz, Katrina Rashell ‡
Gfeller, Erin Rae ‡ †
Hackett, Holly Raye
Hatfield, Greg Allen ‡

Herford, Elissa Ann ‡
Hilburn, Elizabeth Jeanne †
Hollingshead, Jeffrey David* ‡
Holt, Melanie Janelle †
Imanda, Silvia ‡
Knoderer, Carissa Rachel Angel
Lee, Anthony Wayne

Marti, Nicole Rachelle
Meyer, Michael Steven ‡ †
Oldfather, Diane R.
Shaffer, Kristin L. ‡
Smith, Robert Carter. ‡ †
Stephens, Amanda Renee
Stratton, Adam Dean ‡ †

Thomas, Joshua Gabriel ‡
Thompson, Andrew Ryan ‡
Valentine, Eric Lee †
Vassilev, Alexandar V. ‡ †
Waggoner, Tara Elaine
Wallace, Sarah Nicole ‡ †
Wallain, Amy Rebekah ‡

Magna Cum Laude

Grade point average 3.80 - 3.89

Bowden, Yvette Michelle †
Compton, Christina Jo
Corbin, Cindy Lyn
Davis, Brandi Jeanne
Devine, Christal Cherie
England, Stacie Lorena
Estes, Janna Michelle

Gaydusek, Warren Eugene
Gilmore, Stephanie L. †
Goshert, Hannah Ruth
Hall, Stacy Rene
Hames, Amy L.
Hilburn, Brandon Gale †

House, Megan M.
Hunter, Sheryl M.
Kelley, Conrad W. †
Lawrence, Matthew J. †
Reed, Ashley Ann
Reynolds, Elizabeth Ann

Simmons, Tara Renee
Skiles, Crystal Gayle
Wallain, Matthew Bryan
Wellbaum, Kristen Jade
Wicke, Luke Monell
Wicke, Tammy Marie
Winters, Megan Ann

Cum Laude

Grade point average 3.70 - 3.79

Anderson, Rebecca D.
Baldwin, James Thomas
Begey, Jason Michael
Bridges, Rebecca Mae
Cordova, Tracy M. *
Dunfield, Dustin Wayne
Ensor, Alice Christine

Frey, Chrystal D.
Garren, Melissa A.
Garrett, Nicole Lynne *
Hargrove, Katherine Lynn †
Haydal, Danielle Elizabeth †
Johnson, Maggie Magnolia
Lage, Jeanette R.

Lambert, John Benjamin
Lowrey, Richard Anthony
McCleary, Katarina
Suzanne Wilson
Millis, Cara Elizabeth
Moenning, Cassandra Joy
Murdock, Khendra Delaine *

Roelfsema, Joshiah Andrew
Rucker, Steve Don
Sailor, Jeri Beth
Shrum, Randie Lauren*
Stogsdill, Jennifer Lynn *
Vorhees, Erin D'Nell *
Wood, Joy M.

Associate Degrees

First Honors

Grade Point Average 3.90 or above

Fong, Mungyan

Kellenberger, Kayla Jo ‡*

Lynch, Lucinda June

Second Honors

Grade Point Average 3.80 - 3.89

Goodman, Debbie Lynn *
Jones, Jr., Tom

Third Honors

Grade Point Average 3.70 - 3.79

Craven, Jessica Jade *

Depreste, Charles Dean

Graves, Rachel D. *

Rayburn, Shawna Nichol

School of Business Administration

Bachelor of Science

Williams, Daniel Wade

Management Technology

Webb City

Bachelor of Science in Business Administration

Armstrong, Aaron Michael

Management
Independence

Arnold, LaTosha L.

Management
Neosho

Barron, Maria Elena

Management
Joplin

Blackwell, Lori Helen

Management
Carthage

Bledsoe, Matthew C.

Management
Carl Junction

Bond, Stacy Lynn *

Management
Nevada

Brown, Leslie Marie

Accounting
Lee's Summit

Bryant, Kacie Marie

Marketing
Neosho

Bull, Jess E.

General Business
Joplin

Casey, Shauna Lee

Management
Oronogo

Ceselski, Meghan Lea

Management
Monett

Charles, Jeffery Don *

General Business
Webb City

Chasten, Angela M.

Finance and Economics
Joplin

Cochran, Teresa Lynn

General Business
Carl Junction

Cooper, Betty Jayne

Management
Granby

Cooper, Jerry Dale

General Business
Carthage

Crane, Elizabeth Rae

Accounting
Joplin

Crawford, Holly Elaine

General Business
LaRussell

Creed, Seth Tyler

Marketing
Joplin

Egonmwan, Odemwingie Efosa *

Accounting
Nigeria
Lee's Summit

Eilenstein, Shon Kent

Accounting
Carl Junction

England, Stacie Lorena

Management
Neosho

Flood, Carrie Ann

Accounting
Joplin

Francis, Jonathan Mark *

International Business
Webb City

Fridley, Nathan Hale

Accounting
Joplin

Fullmer, Alison Michelle

Accounting
Gravette, AR

Garren, Melissa A.

General Business
Diamond

Gfeller, Erin Rae ‡ †

Accounting / Finance and Economics
Overland Park, KS

Gibson, Brandi Lea

Marketing
Neosho

Gilmore, Melissa Dawn

Management
Monett

Goecker, Tyler Harrison

General Business
Kansas City

Gomez, Elena Rena

Accounting
Mt. Vernon

Haight, Travis Michael

General Business
Sioux Falls, SD

Hall, Stacy Rene

Accounting
Washburn

Hasselbring, Amy Lynn

Marketing
Sarcoxi

Hawks, Lisa Arlene

International Business
Springfield

Hayes, Kali Marie

Management
Monett

Hedrick, William E.

General Business
Joplin

Herford, Elissa Ann ‡

Accounting
Carl Junction

Hess, Marianne

International Business
Carthage

Hofer, Julie A.
General Business
Carthage

Hollis, Deborah Diane
General Business
Joplin

Howerton, David Matthew
Accounting
Joplin

Hubbard, Kalan Alan
Management
Adrian

Hummel, Jamison Ross
Management
Broken Arrow, OK

Hunter, Sheryl Marie
Marketing / Management
Rich Hill

Ingram, Ann Michelle *
Management
Carthage

Johnston, Sarah Gayle
Management
Diamond

Knight, Kyle Lee
General Business
Joplin

Larkin, Vickie M.
Management
Neosho

Lawrence, Matthew J. †
Finance and Economics
Joplin

Lawver, Lucas Franklin
Accounting
Joplin

Leavens, Whitney Rose
International Business
Joplin

Lee, Anthony Wayne
Finance and Economics
Neosho

Lee, Bobbi Jo
Finance and Economics
Neosho

Maxwell, Justin Dane
Management
Kearney

Meschede, Kristen Lynn
Marketing / Management
Grain Valley

Meyer, Michael Steven ‡ †
Accounting / Finance and Economics
Olathe, KS

Meyers, Sheila Denise
Accounting
Kirkwood

Moritz, Matthew Chase
Marketing
Carl Junction

Mott, Jennifer Elizabeth
Marketing
Joplin

Norman, Megan Janel
General Business
Joplin

Norris, Eric Clifford
Management / Marketing
Monett

Orr, Joey Richard
General Business
Mt. Vernon

Reed, Ashley Ann
Management
Joplin

Reynolds, Justin B.
General Business
Joplin

Roche, Stacy Anna *
International Business
Joplin

Sageng, Caitlin Reed
Marketing
Carthage

Schramm, Jana Hunter
Marketing
Coral Springs, FL

Shumaker, Ryan Christopher
Management
Nevada

Silva, Ismael *
International Business
Mexico
Verona

Souders-Ross, Crystal Kay
Management
Anderson

Thomas, Jessica B. *
Management
Joplin

Van Otterloo, Jonathan Don
General Business
Joplin

Wade, Lynette M.
Accounting
Joplin

Walker, Michael Wayne *
Management / Marketing
Carl Junction

Waters, Jacinda Elaine
Marketing
Carthage

Wellbaum, Kristen Jade
Accounting
Pierce City

Williams, Jahala J.
General Business
Joplin

Wilson, Brandon C.
Management
Phillipsburg

Winters, Megan Ann
Accounting
Joplin

Wofford, Jeremi Ryan *
Accounting
Carthage

Wormington, Jamie Michelle
Marketing
Monett

School of Technology

Bachelor of Science

Allmendinger, Linda Carole
Criminal Justice Administration
Fayetteville, AR

Anderson, Rebecca D.
Criminal Justice Administration
Seneca

Angelopoulos Jr., Louis Anthony
Computer Information Science
Joplin

Augustin, Benjamin
Criminal Justice Administration
Miramar, FL

Augustine, Casie D.
Criminal Justice Administration
Joplin

Baldwin II, James Thomas
Computer Information Science
Lamar

Baugh, Kristy Lea
Criminal Justice Administration
Carthage

Baumbach, Angeline Marie
Nursing
Columbus, KS

Biastock, Christopher Ryan *
Criminal Justice Administration
Joplin

Bourgeois, Miranda R. *
Criminal Justice Administration
Anderson

Bremer, Erin Elizabeth
Nursing
Joplin

Bridges, Rebecca M.
Criminal Justice Administration
Neosho

Bristol, Yolande A.T.
Nursing
British Virgin Islands
Joplin

Brown, Clinton Scott
Computer Information Science
Webb City

Brown, Deanna Lea
Nursing
Joplin

Brown, Leslie Marie
Criminal Justice Administration
Lee's Summit

Brown, Regenia JoAnne
Criminal Justice Administration
Joplin

Bryant, Amber Leigh
Criminal Justice Administration
McKinney, TX

Bryant, T. M.
Criminal Justice Administration
Compton, CA

Buchholz, Katrina Rashell ‡
Criminal Justice Administration
Mountain Grove

Buhman, Jessica Sue
Nursing
Olathe, KS

Bunce, Buffy Lynn
Nursing
Quapaw, OK

Butler, Sandra J.
Criminal Justice Administration
La Russell

Carlson, Johanna Maria
Nursing
Neosho

Carson, James Corbett
Criminal Justice Administration
Independence, KS

Carter, Phyllis Kay
Criminal Justice Administration
Jasper

Charlton, Kamero Renee
Nursing
Nevada

Clark, Misty *
Criminal Justice Administration
Del City, OK

Coach II, Jerry Dean
Criminal Justice Administration
Picher, OK

Conner, Christine Elizabeth
Nursing
Webb City

Corbin, Ciri Dawn
Nursing
Carl Junction

Cox, Dana R.
Criminal Justice Administration
Rocky Comfort

Craft, Melissa Ann
Nursing
Webb City

Creed, Ashley Nichole
Criminal Justice Administration
Stotts City

Daniell, Tammy Sue
Criminal Justice Administration
Joplin

Daugherty, Shanda Lynn *
Criminal Justice Administration
Fairland, OK

Davis, Stephen W.
Nursing
Joplin

Derryberry, Heidi R. N.
Criminal Justice Administration
Seneca

Dill, Tyler D. *
Criminal Justice Administration
Webb City

Doennig, Andrew R.
Criminal Justice Administration
Monett

Doss, Jennifer Lynn
Nursing
Monett

Dutton, Joan Marie
Nursing
Joplin

Edwards, Teresa A.
Nursing
Joplin

Engelage, Ashley Elizabeth
Nursing
Lamar

Estes, Janna Michelle
Nursing
Joplin

Felix, Jessica Renee
Health Science
Joplin

Finley, Amber Lenae
Health Science
Grove, OK

Flippo, Carrissa Dawn
Nursing
Joplin

Forest, Julia V. *
Health Science
 Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
 Springfield

Frickenschmidt, Carol
Health Science
 Lockwood

Galletly, Cynthia Colleen *
Criminal Justice Administration
 Gateway, AR

Garrett, Nicole Lynne *
Health Science
 Columbia

Gass, Regan Michelle
Nursing
 Joplin

Girven, Gregory A.
Computer Information Science
 El Dorado Springs

Govitz, Crystal Gail *
Health Science
 Gravette, AR

Greenlee, Kay Lynn
Criminal Justice Administration
 Jasper

Guilfoyle, Christopher Todd
Computer Information Science
 Neosho

Harrell, Jessica Danielle †
Health Science
 Joplin

Healey, Anna Kate *
Criminal Justice Administration
 Sarcoxie

Heistand, Sara Jo
Nursing
 Joplin

Hilburn, Brandon G. †
Nursing
 Joplin

Hill, Lakkresha Ann *
Criminal Justice Administration
 Joplin

Howe, Joshua Ray
Computer Forensics / Criminal Justice Administration
 Fairview

Hueto, Christina Mae
Nursing
 Granby

Hurt, Chase N.
Criminal Justice Administration
 Lamar

Ike, Floyd
Criminal Justice Administration
 Pomona, CA

Imanda, Silvia ‡
Nursing
 Singapore
 Joplin

Inman, Kelly Lynne
Nursing
 Picher, OK

Johnson, Jessica Sue
Nursing
 Carthage

Kalleck, Darya Mari
Nursing
 Butler

Keeter, Michel L.
Nursing
 Carl Junction

Kelley, Conrad William †
Computer Information Science
 Joplin

Kibbey, Konny LeAnn
Nursing
 Joplin

Kidd, April Marie *
Medical Technology
 Southwest City

King, Sarah Esther
Health Science
 Joplin

Link, Jason Truett
Nursing
 Joplin

Long, Marcy Marie
Nursing
 Pierce City

Lowe, Donald Irwin
Nursing
 Joplin

Lowrey, Richard Anthony
Computer Information Science
 Joplin

Lynch, Jr., James Michael
Criminal Justice Administration
 Joplin

Mason, Sandra Dawn
Nursing
 Carthage

McCullah, Charla J.
Nursing
 Joplin

McCullough, Rikki Dawn
Computer Information Science
 Duenweg

Meier, Cassie Reniah
Criminal Justice Administration
 Neosho

Miller, Brett Samuel *
Criminal Justice Administration
 Webb City

Miller, Cora Z. *
Criminal Justice Administration
 Miami, OK

Moore, Marc R.
Criminal Justice Administration
 Jefferson City

Morey, Jerod Michael *
Criminal Justice Administration
 Lamar

Nash, Mendy Sue
Criminal Justice Administration
 Monett

Oldfather, Diane R.
Health Science
 Bland

Orr, April Joy
Nursing
 Mt. Vernon

Payton, Joseph E.
Criminal Justice Administration
 Neosho

Perry, Gretchen Anette
Nursing
 Webb City

Peterson, Kirk Alan
Criminal Justice Administration
 Grand Junction, CO

Ramsey, Margaret Mary
Nursing
 Monett

Reeder, April Dawn
Health Science
 Savannah

Reeves, Gina Dee *
Medical Technology
 Joplin

Robison, Michelle Leigh
Nursing
 Nevada

Robin, Robert Bernard
Criminal Justice Administration
 Neosho

Rosewicz, Justin Michael
Computer Information Science
 Joplin

Rothwell, Peter Jacob
Criminal Justice Administration
 Neosho

Shadwick, Joshua Todd *
Criminal Justice Administration
 Coffeyville, KS

Shields, Kelli Lynn
Nursing
 Carl Junction

Shields, Lori Ann

Nursing
Joplin

Shirshova, Ioulia Alexandrovna

Nursing
Russia
Joplin

Smith, Joshua Reid *

Criminal Justice Administration
Jay, OK

Spence II, Dennis Ervin

Criminal Justice Administration
Purdy

Stephens, Amanda Renee

Criminal Justice Administration
Cassville

Stout, Jenna LeeAnn

Nursing
Pittsburg, KS

Stratton, Adam Dean ‡ †

Management Technology (MIMS)
Golden City

Swaffar, Rosie J.

Health Science
Granby

Thomas, Adam G.

Industrial Engineering Technology
Stockton

Thomas, Joshua Gabriel ‡

Computer Information Science
Carthage

Thorn, Jeremy Keith

Computer Information Science
Stotts City

Throop, Michael Eugene

Management Technology (MIMS)
Industrial Engineering Technology
Webb City

Underwood, Megan Rae

Criminal Justice Administration
Thayer

Underwood, Ralph Jared

Criminal Justice Administration
Carl Junction

Vassilev, Alexandar Vassilev ‡ †

Computer Information Science
Bulgaria
Joplin

Viebrock, Skyler Don

Criminal Justice Administration
Kansas City

Wadell, Brian Christopher

Computer Forensics / Criminal Justice
Administration
Joplin

Walters, Jessika Marie

Criminal Justice Administration
Miami, OK

Ward, Brian Scott

Criminal Justice Administration
Joplin

Wedgeworth, Stephen Leslie

Criminal Justice Administration
Kansas City

West, Boone *

Health Science
Neosho

Williams, Joey Dee *

Criminal Justice Administration
Miami, OK

Willis, Amber Marie

Nursing
Carterville

Wolf, Austin Robert

Criminal Justice Administration
Carthage

Wood, Joy M.

Health Science
Wyandotte, OK

Young, Robert Allen

Computer Forensics / Criminal Justice
Administration
Webb City

Associate of Arts

Barrett, Sena Marie

General Studies
Neosho

Burton, Amanda Sue

General Studies
Joplin

Goodman, Deborah Lynn *

General Studies
S. Greenfield

Hill, Brandi Renee

General Studies
Crawford, KS

Keller, James David

General Studies
Baxter Springs, KS

Ledbetter, Philip David

General Studies
Joplin

McLaughlin-Smith, Rebekah *

General Studies
Webb City

Smiley, Daisy Ann

General Studies
Joplin

Associate of Science

Bookout, Ashley Dawn

Dental Hygiene
Joplin

Bridges, Rebecca M.

Law Enforcement
Neosho

Brown, Clinton Scott

Computer Information Science
Webb City

Brown, Regenia JoAnne

Law Enforcement
Joplin

Bryant, T. M.

Law Enforcement
Compton, CA

Buchholz, Katrina Rashell ‡

Law Enforcement
Mountain Grove

Busse, Karissa Michelle

Dental Hygiene
Joplin

Capen, Sandra Marie

General Business
Joplin

Carter, Phyllis Kay
Law Enforcement
Jasper

Cotter, Ashley Dawn
Dental Hygiene
Caulfield

Cox, Dana R.
Accounting
Rocky Comfort

Craven, Jessica Jade *
Radiologic Technology
Seneca

Daniell, Tammy Sue
Law Enforcement
Joplin

Davis, Robert Donald
Law Enforcement
Joplin

DePreste, Charles Dean
General Business
Sarcxie

Derryberry, Heidi R. N.
Law Enforcement
Seneca

Eubanks, Krystal L. *
General Business
Joplin

Evans, Katherine Marie
Dental Hygiene
Nixa

Feith, Harold Lee
General Business
Oronogo

Flear, Jenifer L.
Dental Hygiene
Belvue, KS

Flowers, Jr., Denny H. *
Law Enforcement
Galena, KS

Fong, Mungyan
Computer Information Science
China
Joplin

Frickenschmidt, Carol
Dental Hygiene
Lockwood

Govitz, Crystal Gail
Dental Hygiene
Gravette, AR

Graves, Rachel Dawn *
General Business
Stockton

Guilfoyle, Christopher Todd
Computer Information Science
Neosho

Hamilton, Jordan Ryan
Computer Information Science
Carthage

Hendley, Candice Danielle *
Radiologic Technology
Joplin

Hill Sayles, Amy Shala
Dental Hygiene
Joplin

Hurt, Chase N.
Law Enforcement
Lamar

Jessip, Stephanie Michelle *
Radiologic Technology
Neosho

Jones, Barbara J.
Dental Hygiene
Pierce City

Jones, Jeremiah Thomas *
Radiologic Technology
Carthage

Jones, Jr., Tom
Computer Assisted Manufacturing Technology
Golden City

Kellenberger, Kayla Jo ‡ *
Radiologic Technology
Lamar

Kennedy, Charles E.
Computer Assisted Manufacturing Technology
Carl Junction

King, Sarah Esther
Dental Hygiene
Joplin

Lynch, Jr., James Michael
Law Enforcement
Joplin

Lynch, Lucinda June
General Business
Joplin

Mattison, Angela Marie
Dental Hygiene
Bella Vista, AR

Miller, Brett Samuel *
Law Enforcement
Webb City

Miller, Diana Elizabeth
Dental Hygiene
Joplin

Montez, Kimberly Rachele
Accounting
Carterville

Nielson, Joseph B.
Law Enforcement
Joplin

Otten, Rebecca Lynne
Dental Hygiene
Neosho

Pawlus, Julianne Renee
Dental Hygiene
Webb City

Pitts, Nicholas Eugene *
Radiologic Technology
Baxter Springs, KS

Powell, Janis Kay
Accounting
Joplin

Rayburn, Shawna Nichol
Dental Hygiene
Seneca

Rosewicz, Justin Michael
Computer Information Science
Joplin

Smith, Joshua Reid
Law Enforcement
Jay, OK

Smith, Tera Linn
General Business
Clay Center, NE

Snook, Gerrett R.
Law Enforcement
Baxter Springs, KS

Spence II, Dennis Ervin
Law Enforcement
Purdy

Stratton, Adam Dean ‡ †
Computer Assisted Manufacturing Technology
Golden City

Thornton, Stephanie Lynn
Computer Information Science
Joplin

Viebrock, Skyler Don
Law Enforcement
Kansas City

Wachsman, Tiffany Joy *
Radiologic Technology
Webb City

Wadell, Brian Christopher
Computer Information Science
Joplin

Walsh, Matthew Austin
General Business
Carthage

Ward, Brian Scott
Law Enforcement
Joplin

West, Boone
Dental Hygiene
Neosho

West, Sarah Nichole
Dental Hygiene
Carthage

Wood, Danna Fay *
Radiologic Technology
Neosho

Zornes, Heather
Dental Hygiene
Powell

Academic Attire

As early as the twelfth century the first modern universities, at Bologna and Paris, were centers of European learning. The usual garb of the time, for both churchmen and laymen, was a long gown which was necessary for warmth in the unheated buildings of the day. Scholars, generally members of church orders, wore such robes and also hoods to protect their shaven heads. Later, skull caps were worn on the head, and the hood became a cape which could be pulled over the head in unpleasant weather. The hood was also sometimes used to collect alms from the more affluent members of the community. As additional universities were founded, distinctive forms of the gown and hood were adopted by their faculties. Variations indicated ranks within the institutions. Strict rules were published and in some cases punishment cited for tailors who departed from the authorized design.

The academic hat was a later development, adapted from the headdress of the ordinary people. Academically, it was originally worn as a symbol of the master's degree, and existed in various forms: some were round, some square and some had a tuft in the center. The flat, square "mortar board" of today originated at Oxford University in England.

Academic costume came to America in 1754 with the founding of King's College, now Columbia University. Styles became quite varied as they were in Europe, but in 1895 a group of American college and university representatives met to establish a uniform system of academic apparel for this country. This led to the establishment in 1902 of an "Intercollegiate Code of Academic Costume." The American Council of Education formed a committee in 1932 to review the 1895 code, which was again reviewed and revised in both 1960 and 1965.

There are today three basic types of gowns and hoods. The bachelor's gown has pointed sleeves and is designed to be worn closed. Recipients of the associate degrees wear gray gowns designed like the bachelor's gown. The master's gown is designed with an oblong sleeve, open at the wrist and with an arc cut away at the front of the sleeve. It may be worn either open or closed. The doctoral gown is of a full design with voluminous sleeves, and it also may be worn open or closed. Unlike the other two, the doctoral gown is faced down the front with velvet and with three velvet bars on the sleeves. These may be black or a color related to the subject of the degree. Thus, arts, letters and humanities may be white, business degrees may be drab or sapphire blue, education uses light blue, fine arts is brown, music is pink and science is golden yellow, to name a few.

The caps are always black, with a black tassel for baccalaureate degrees and a tassel of the color indicated above for master's. Doctoral caps usually have a tassel of metallic gold color.

The hoods worn by master's degree recipients are lined with the official colors of the institution awarding the degree. The binding and edging of the hood is silk or velvet in the color pertaining to the subject area. Doctoral hoods are longer and designed somewhat fuller, but the colors again are those of the institution granting the degree for the lining, and of the subject for the wide edging. There exists a small bachelor's hood, but generally it is not used in this country.

The hoods represented in our ceremony are a combination of colors from each of the collaborating institutions. Traditional colors and corresponding fields of study are:

Brown:	Fine Arts
Crimson:	Journalism
Dark Blue:	Philosophy
Golden Yellow:	Science
Lemon Yellow:	Library Science
Light Blue:	Education
Pink:	Music
Purple:	Law
Sage Green:	Physical Education
Scarlet:	Theology
White:	Arts, Letters, Humanities
Yellow Brown:	Commerce, Business, Accountancy

Our Mission

*M*issouri Southern State University is a state-supported, comprehensive university offering programs leading to the bachelor's degree and selected master's degrees. Faithful to its original statutory charter, the University also offers continuing education courses and a number of two-year programs in technical and vocational areas for the benefit of the community.

The University's primary emphasis is the offering of a baccalaureate program that fosters the total education of each student. Central to that mission is a strong commitment to international education, to the liberal arts, to professional and preprofessional programs, and to the complementary relationship that must exist between liberal and professional education in order to prepare individuals for success in careers and lifelong learning.

Inherent in its international approach to undergraduate education is the University's desire to prepare its students to understand world affairs, international issues and other cultures as seen through their history, geography, language, literature, philosophy, economics and politics. Knowledge and understanding of other cultures of the world also promote better understanding of our own valuable cultural diversity.

Missouri Southern's commitment to the liberal arts is reflected in a comprehensive program of general education requirements for all students to ensure that they have a breadth of educational experiences which will enable them to develop communication and critical thinking skills and to acquire and apply aesthetic, contemporary, civic, international, historical, mathematical, scientific and value-oriented perspective.

The faculty and staff of Missouri Southern State University emphasize quality teaching and learning as the most important attributes of the University, complemented by scholarly and creative expression and dedicated community service. Community service involves responsiveness to the Southwest Missouri region as well as serving as the intellectual, creative and cultural center of the area.

In order to remain loyal to the trust given to the University by the people of the State of Missouri, Missouri Southern State University will:

- fulfill its mission and objectives in an honorable and ethical manner;
- periodically review its mission in light of contemporary changes in society and in the needs of the people of Missouri;
- continually assess the effectiveness of its programs in order to ensure their quality and integrity.

ALMA MATER

Words by Mary Laird,
Class of '39

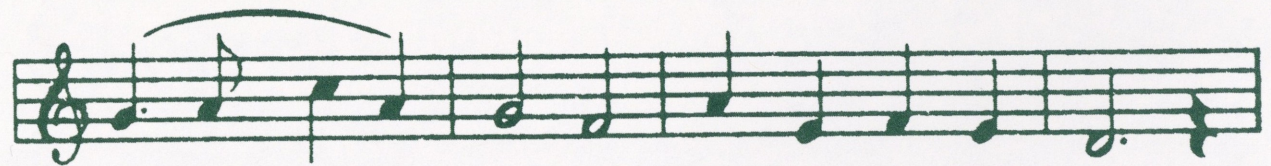
Music by Emerson Jackson,
Class of '39



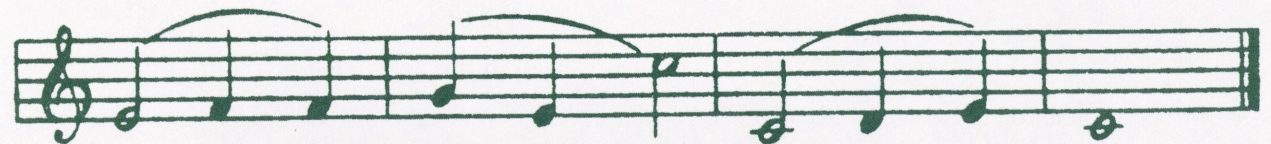
Our Al - ma Ma - ter, we ho - nor thee,



shap - ing and guid - ing our de - sti - ny.



Af - ter we have part - ed as the years roll by;



we'll keep each me - mo - ry hail, hail to thee.

Missouri Southern State University's "Alma Mater" was drafted during the Joplin Junior College second year by a group that included Mary Laird, Joan Epperson, Enos Currey, Ellen Beasley, and Emerson Jackson. Laird was principally responsible for the lyrics while Jackson set it to music. It was first sung during a Class-Day program in 1939.